

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A belt retractor for a belt comprising a tensioning device having a cylinder and a piston displaceably guided in said cylinder, said piston being provided with a tooth rack section into which a pinion can engage to drive said belt retractor, wherein said tooth rack section comprises at least one toothed segment which is detachably attached to said piston and detaches from said piston to come out of engagement with said pinion after activation of said tensioning device.

Claim 2 (Original) The belt retractor according to claim 1, wherein said piston is manufactured by diecasting.

Claim 3 (Original) The belt retractor according to claim 1, wherein said detachable segment consists of another material than said remaining piston.

Claim 4 (Canceled)

Claim 5 (Original) The belt retractor according to claim 1, wherein said tooth rack section comprises several detachable segments.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended) A belt retractor comprising a tensioning device having a cylinder and a piston displaceably

guided in said cylinder, said piston being provided with a tooth rack section into which a pinion can engage to drive said belt retractor, wherein said tooth rack section comprises at least one segment which is detachably attached to said piston~~The belt retractor according to claim 1,~~ wherein at least one shearing pin is provided on said piston, which shearing pin reaches into a recess in said detachable segment.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended) A belt retractor comprising a tensioning device having a cylinder and a piston displaceably guided in said cylinder, said piston being provided with a tooth rack section into which a pinion can engage to drive said belt retractor, wherein said tooth rack section comprises at least one segment which is detachably attached to said piston~~The belt retractor according to claim 1,~~ wherein a barb is provided in said cylinder, which barb can engage said detachable segment.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended) The belt retractor according to claim 1, wherein said ~~pinion~~ pinion is manufactured by diecasting.

Claim 9 (Original) The belt retractor according to claim 1, wherein said pinion is manufactured in one piece with a belt reel.

Claim 10 (Original) The belt retractor according to claim 1, wherein said pinion comprises more than seven teeth.

Claim 11 (Original) The belt retractor according to claim 1, wherein said tensioning device comprises a housing, with said cylinder being manufactured in one piece with said diecast housing.

Claim 12 (New) The belt retractor according to claim 1 wherein said at least one toothed segment detaches from said piston to come out of engagement with said pinion after activation of said tensioning device and in response to the piston being displaced a predetermined distance in said cylinder during unwinding of the belt

Claim 13 (New) The belt retractor according to claim 12 including a barb provided in said cylinder, wherein said barb engages said at least one toothed segment to allow said at least one toothed segment to detach from said piston upon said piston being displaced the predetermined distance in said cylinder during unwinding of the belt.